NEW YORK – U.S. Rep. Spencer Bachus (R-AL), who is attending today's joint session of Congress in New York, issued the following statement about the occasion:

"This historic joint session of Congress today in New York is a tribute to our nation's courage and unity in the war on terrorism. It's a powerful expression of our solidarity as a nation.

"New York and our entire country continues to recover from the brutal and dastardly attack by Islamic terrorists.

"It is most appropriate that we're meeting today in Federal Hall, the site of the very first meeting of the Congress and where President George Washington was inaugurated. More than 200 years later, we remain steadfast to principle and strong as a people.

"Congress returns today to the literal birthplace of our democracy as we approach the anniversary of September 11<sup>th</sup>. Being here helps underscore for all the founding principle of our nation – freedom.

"This is a meaningful way to remember the victims, honor the heroes and pay our respects to the resilience of New York and this nation.

"As a nation and as a people, in this war on terrorism our cause is just and we shall prevail."